

HB381

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MARIANNE NIELSEN

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A scientific methodology and an interest in the phenomena of the very obvious and the banal, (and often overlooked) define Marianne Nielsen's ceramic works. She strives to obtain a visual understanding of what is commonplace, the minutia that surrounds us. How do we perceive hairstyles? How and why does a form become iconic in our common language? For instance the profile and nature of a mountain? What do we read into the shape and color? In flowers? In her works, it is neither the figuration nor narration, as such, that are in focus; instead, it is our own experience and discernment of the subject that is being investigated. Nielsen places our stylistic concepts under a magnifying glass, revealing our re-fashioning of nature into artifice via design and use of color. We become witnesses to a kind of grammatical analysis of form, as in her close reading and depiction of plant structures. It is not a scientist's botanical dissection in a lab, but rather a creation of visual form and rhythm, of interpretation and ornament.